EPA Internal Only Version

DRAFT AGENDA for USEPA/USACE/USBR Meeting of 9/25/2007

The Edith Green-Wyatt Federal Building
1220 SW 3rd Ave, Conference room 622
Portland, OR

I. Introductions and Welcome – Gearheard& Shepp et al

II. Background/History - Gearheard & Shepp

A. what happened, how we got to here, current status, Dworshak success, overview of draft Temperature TMDL?, FACA Report, agreements made at November workshop- - - (Mary Lou and Rick P. to develop for Gearheard)

B. Policy Issues

1. Implementation issues/realities

a. Achievability and Potential Need for UAA Process or other CWA relief

b. Specific Opportunities for Temperature Improvement
– e.g., Grand Coulee, Hells Canyon

2. TMDL Issues

a. Natural Condition (No Dams) Baseline

b. TMDL Study Area – Upstream Boundaries and Boundary Conditions

c. Modeling – Model used (RBM10), Other models, Data, Complexity, etc.

III. Way Forward

A. Alternative Strategies for completing TMDL

1. TMDL and CWA flexibility/relief

2. Break into multiple TMDLs that are sequenced (Ben to discuss)
   a. Grand Coulee temperature TMDL
   b. Grand Coulee to Chief Joseph TMDL
   c. Snake River temperature TMDL
   d. Rest of C.R. TMDL

3. Use a different water quality model or multiple models

4. Simplify the TMDL – e.g., group the dam allocations

B. Next Steps

Agenda issues for EPA to discuss internally :

1. Roles and relationship- is this to operate like Federal Caucus or like regulator/regulated? Do we need their concurrence to go forward?
2. How get to crux issues of control, trust, fears (e.g., dam removal), legal liability, CWA relief, TMDL as a nuisance? (HQ lead)
3. What are potential impacts of the B.O.?
4. How to manage the meeting?

Federal Col. River power system
- have been working for 15 years.
Bureau, Corps, Bonneville

damrecovery.gov

Run of the River Dams

Fish Barge from McNary

Thursday

Breaking TMDL into Sub-TMDLs

Grand Coulee TMDL

- major temp impactor
- feasible options – e.g., powerhouse switch
- first dam in USA on Columbia
- single model for reservoir
- PSU W2 model a possibility

Grand Coulee + Chief Joseph

- same advantages as above
- covers tribal waters (Colville and Spokane)

Snake River TMDL

- different options for scope – e.g., include HC Complex?
- HC Complex and Snake Dams major impactors
- OR/ID TMDL does not address WA border impact
- Solidify Dworshak ops as CWA and ESA compliant

Major Modeling Issues

- Geographic Scope of TMDL – workload ramifications
- Model selection – use existing RBM10 model or another model
  - 1D vs 2D – model runtime, available data
  - Years to be simulated
  - Daily or hourly time step
- Complexity of allocation scheme – affects workload and complexity of modeling
- Potential staffing limitations – options for getting assistance (contract $, etc.)